

Community Input Summary

As a part of the Bon Air Special Area Plan process an extensive community engagement effort was undertaken by county staff to ensure that the plan guides future growth and development in a way that meets the vision of the people that live, work and play within the Bon Air area. The community engagement effort was focused on identifying community assets as well as things that people would like to see changed within the area. County staff hosted two public community workshops, met with several groups and individuals, attended community events and produced a survey that was available for completion at the first community workshop as well as online. Staff received input from over 200 individuals at meetings and events in the community and the survey received 188 responses.

Input was received regarding a variety of topic areas including things that people like currently and things that people would like to see changed or added to the area. The major topic areas included:

- Pedestrian and Bicycling
- Transportation
- Land Use and Design
- Community
- Public Facilities
- Environment
- Other

The following is a summarization of all of the input received throughout the entire community input process.

What People Like About Bon Air

People identified several positive characteristics that they like about Bon Air and that are assets to the area. The Bon Air community, including the people who live in the area, was identified as something people like about the area the most. People also identified the convenient location, the natural environment and the historic village feel of the area as things that they like currently about Bon Air.

What Could be Changed or Added to Improve the Area

Several things were identified that people would like to see changed or added to Bon Air to improve the area. People identified the need for improved pedestrian and bicycle accommodations the most throughout the input process. Individuals identified the need to provide safe walking and biking opportunities throughout the Bon Air area connecting neighborhoods to public facilities and the commercial core. Concern has also been raised by community members regarding the potential design of sidewalks and the impact on historic nature of Bon Air.

Transportation and traffic was another topic area that received numerous comments. Individuals identified specific roads and intersections in the plan geography where they are concerned about safety and suggested the potential for reduced speeds in the area, traffic calming and other measures to reduce cut through traffic in Bon Air.

Land use and design related issues focused on a desire to promote new small businesses in the commercial core area and providing some sort of community space. Individuals expressed a desire to have more dining and retail options, while there was some concern regarding increased commercial increasing traffic to some of the neighborhoods surrounding the commercial core of Bon Air. Individuals also commented on the potential to clean up and improve the aesthetics of the commercial area by burying overhead utility lines, adding in street lights, increasing code enforcement in the area and designing commercial buildings to fit in with the historic nature of Bon Air.

Other comments included the desire to preserve trees and maintain tree lined streets throughout the area, the potential for certain areas to be connected to public sewer and concern over the transition of single-family homes to commercial uses.